

A NEW DOBSONFLY (MEGALOPTERA) FROM CALIFORNIA

BY EDWIN C. VAN DYKE

California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California

In 1908, Banks published a paper on the classification of the Corydalinae, in which he defined the various genera of the group, at the same time establishing two new genera at the expense of older genera. One of these was *Neohermes* which was to include the following previously described species: *flicornis*¹ Banks, the genotype, *californicus* Walker, *angusticollis* Hagen, *cinerascens* Blanchard, and *humeralis* Banks.

The genus *Neohermes* is defined by Banks as having the anal vein of forewings with two forks, the anal cells subequal in length, the lower with two veins, the upper with one, and no cross vein between the first branch of the anal vein and the vein from anal cell, the costal cells about as long as broad, the antennae as near to the ocelli as to the eyes, the branches of the median vein simple, and but three cross veins from radial sector to radius.

Neohermes nigrinus Van Dyke, new species

Of moderate size and entirely black except the anterior part of head which is somewhat fulvous and a few cross veins on the outer portion of both wings which are white. Head widest across eyes which are of moderate size and protuberant, convergent in front and gradually narrowed behind, the ocelli conspicuous, and with two elongate callosities centrally located behind; antennae filiform, with segments slightly longer than broad and somewhat moniliform, and almost three-fourths length of forewing. Prothorax longer than broad, with sides parallel and disk opaque except for sides and medial area behind, which are smooth and shining. Wings about four times as long as broad, the hind pair with sides more parallel as usual. The wing venation agrees with the genus and such typical species as *californicus* Walker.

Holotype (No. 5430, Mus. Calif. Acad. Sci., Ent.) and one paratype. *Holotype*, expanse of wings, spread, 5 cm. 2 mm., length of body 2 cm.; paratype, expanse of wings 4 cm. 2 mm., length of body 1 cm. 5 mm. Both specimens were collected by me at RICHARDSON'S SPRING, BUTTE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA, the *holotype*, May 12, 1944, and the paratype May 18, 1944.

The black color, moderate size, a rather small head as compared with *californicus*, and simple filiform antennae should readily separate this species from any of the others in the genus.

¹ According to Weele, Coll. Zool., Selys Longchamps, 1910, *flicornis* Banks as also *angusticollis* Hagen, *concolor* Davis, and *minutus* Davis are synonyms of *californicus* Walker, therefore the last would be the genotype.